Students Ask D.C. for Kent Probe

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By ANTONY PRISENDORF
N. Y. Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Carrying a petition tthey said contained more than 10,000 signatures, two Kent State University students went to the White House today to demand a federal grand jury investigation of the fatal shooting of four students by Ohio National Guardsmen in May, 1970.

The students met with Presidential advisor Leonard Garment and at a press conference later they said Garment had promised to present their case to President Nixon to see whether a grand jury could be empanelled.

Two months ago Attorney General Mitchell ruled out such an investigation, saying a review of the slayings by the Justice Dept. convinced him that "there is no credible evidence of a conspiracy between National Guardsmen to shoot students on the campus and that there is no likelihood of successful prosecutions of individual Guardsmen."

If the President doesn't agree to a grand jury by the end of November, the students said today, they will ask for a second meeting with Justice Dept. representatives on hand to explain why they will not pursue an investigation.

The students—Greg Rambo, an undergraduate and president of the Young Republican Club on campus, and Paul Keane, a graduate student in English—said the petition was signed by 10,380 of the 18,000 students at Kent State and had the support of the parents of the four slain youths.

With them at the press conference was South Dakota Sen. George McGovern, an announced contender for the Democratic Presidential nomination, who endorsed their action and called a grand jury inquiry "critically urgent."